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This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of US government policy for victory in Iraq.

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Highlights



- Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents
 Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces secured the December 15 elections, enabling a significant increase in voter turnout, especially in Sunni Arab communities. There was reporting that some insurgents encouraged voting.
- 2. Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance Operation Alkamra Almaner (Moonlight) concluded December 20. Moonlight was the first brigade-level operation conducted by the Iraqi Army in Al Anbar province.
- 3. Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government
 On December 26, the IECI announced preliminary, partial results for "special"
 (detainee, security force, hospitals) and out-of-country voting. It appears the
 482,450 ballots will not significantly change seat allocations among the political
 parties that appear to have won seats in the Council of Representatives.
- 4. Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services In the last week, two rehabilitated power plants have returned to service – one in the Baghdad area and another in the South. The Baghdad area power plant and the Southern plant are estimated to add up to 108 and 123 megawatts respectively to the national grid.

Highlights



5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

On December 23, the International Monetary Fund Executive Board approved Iraq's request for an economic reform program (Stand-by Arrangement), supported by a \$680 million loan facility.

6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law

The trial of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein on charges of crimes against humanity was adjourned on December 22 and will resume January 24.

7. Increase International Support for Iraq

Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain made a surprise visit to Iraq on December 22 and Prime Minister Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz of Poland visited Polish troops in Iraq on December 21.

8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents

The United States will have two fewer combat brigades in Iraq in 2006, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld announced during a speech on December 23 to troops at Camp Fallujah in western Iraq.

[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency



Security Forces Secure Al Anbar for Elections:

- Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces helped pave the way for hundreds of thousands of Iraqi citizens in the Al Anbar Province to vote in Iraq's parliamentary elections December 15. Voter turnout was robust throughout the province, with a far higher percentage of the predominantly Sunni population participating in the elections than did in the October constitutional referendum. There were few security incidents reported in the province and the murder and intimidation campaign that kept many people from the polls during the previous votes never materialized.
 - "Today's vote exceeded all expectations," said Brigadier General James L. Williams, assistant division commander of the 2nd Marine Division. "What we saw today was the result of months of hard work by the Iraqi government, the US Ambassador and his staff and the international community. Most of all, it clearly demonstrates the resolve of the local Iraqi people to take their rightful place in the democratic process."

[2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces



Operation Moonlight Concludes:

• Operation Alkamra Almaner (Moonlight) concluded December 20. Moonlight was the first brigade-level operation conducted by Iraqi Army soldiers in the Al Anbar province. Five Iraqi Army companies from 1st Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division led the operation and were supported by a company of US Marines from Regimental Combat Team-2. The operation netted a weapons cache and demonstrated the Iraqi Army soldiers' ability to gather intelligence, plan, execute and exercise command and control during a large-scale operation. The Iraqi soldiers, with the Marines following, cleared an area east of Ubaydi along the northern and southern banks of the Euphrates River. The area directly to the west was cleared last month during Operation Steel Curtain.

Iraqi Army Service and Support Institute Provides Critical Training:

 Nearly 600 newly trained Iraqi Army leaders in the fields of support and logistics are now taking these critical skills to the front lines, and the institution that trained them is continuing to expand for the future. Students taking part in supervisor-level courses in logistics, transport, maintenance, supply, administration and medical fields were awarded their certificates December 19 as part of the largest graduation yet of the Iraqi Army Service and Support Institute at Taji Military Training Base.

[2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces



Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED	
POLICE	75 700	
HIGHWAY PATROL	~75,700	
OTHER MOI FORCES	~37,400	
TOTAL	~118,000*	

Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~101,600
AIR FORCE	~300
NAVY	~800
TOTAL	~105,700**

Total Trained & Equipped ISF:

~223,700

- * Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers
- ** Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

Data as of December 28, 2005 (updated bi-weekly by DOD)

[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government— Developments



Peaceful Demonstration:

Approximately 50 members of the Islamic Walaa Party (ballot number 758) staged a peaceful demonstration outside the Karbala office of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI) December 19. The Islamic Walaa Party is comprised of followers of Mahmoud Al-Hasani (Al-Sarkhi), an extremist Shi'a cleric. The demonstrators demanded that the IECI recount the Karbala vote and accused the United Islamic Alliance (UIA, ballot number 555) of a host of election infractions, e.g., campaigning with loudspeakers from within polling places and stuffing ballot boxes.

<u>Turnout Low in Support of Ahmed Chalabi</u>:

 Unexpectedly low support from overseas voters has left Ahmed Chalabi facing a shutout from the Council of Representatives. With 95 percent of a preliminary tally from the December 15 vote now completed, Chalabi remained almost 8,000 votes short of the 40,000 minimum needed to win a single seat in the 275-seat Council of Representatives, according to election officials.

[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic





Minister of State for Provinces

Sa'd al-Hardan

Minister of State for **Tourism and Antiquities** Hashim al-Hashimi

Minister of State for Women's Affairs

Azhar al-Shaykhli (F)

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(F) = Female

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2



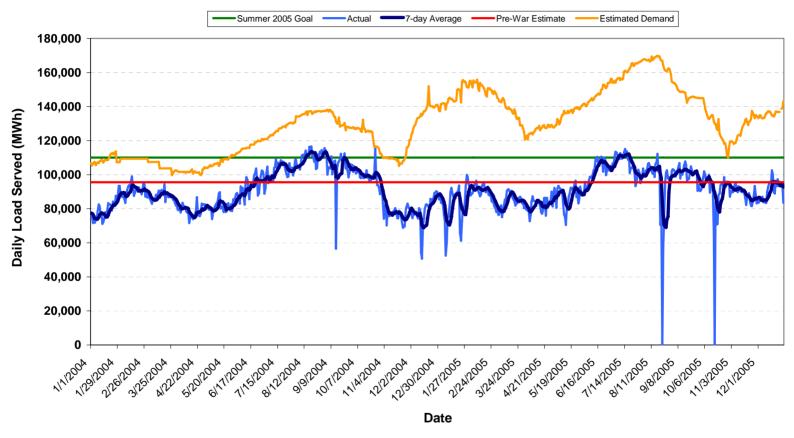
\$Millions	Apportio	ned	Committed		Obligated			Disbursed			
Sector	2207 Report	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	5020.60	5020.60	4,954.5	4,942.7	(11.84)	4,769.1	4,782.2	13.16	4,059.8	4,093.0	33.1
Electricity Sector	4314.82	4077.22	3,739.1	3,839.1	99.96	3,033.3	3,041.6	8.28	1,771.6	1,786.7	15.1
Oil Infrastructure	1723.00	1723.00	1,677.3	1,684.6	7.30	1,401.7	1,402.6	0.87	640.7	657.0	16.2
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	1251.15	1251.15	1,205.4	1,205.6	0.18	1,096.7	1,096.8	0.09	666.6	670.1	3.5
Democracy	1003.85	1003.85	933.2	968.2	35.00	932.9	967.9	35.08	614.8	646.9	32.1
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	363.00	363.00	339.0	339.0	0.00	334.8	334.8	0.00	195.0	195.1	0.1
Roads, Bridges and Construction	333.71	333.71	290.9	291.0	0.14	256.1	256.1	0.00	158.6	159.0	0.3
Health Care	786.00	786.00	708.6	727.3	18.65	618.4	633.7	15.24	339.5	344.5	4.9
Transportation and Communications	508.51	508.51	446.2	446.2	0.00	396.4	396.6	0.17	207.9	208.7	0.8
♥ater Resources and Sanitation	2146.58	1819.08	1,568.6	1,583.0	14.43	1,399.0	1,421.4	22.41	660.5	688.1	27.5
Private Sector Development	840.28	795.27	793.5	793.5	0.00	782.3	782.3	0.00	552.2	555.8	3.6
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	213.00	213.00	147.9	147.9	0.00	147.9	147.9	0.00	56.7	56.7	0.0
TOTAL	18504.50	17894.39	16,804.1	16,967.9	163.81	15,168.5	15,263.8	95.32	9,924.1	10,061.5	137.4
IRRF 2 Construction			9,614.1	9,720.1	106.00	8,319.7	8,363.7	44.02	4,964.8	5,023.8	59.0
IRRF 2 Non-Construction			6,256.9	6,279.7	22.81	5,915.9	5,932.1	16.22	4,344.5	4,390.8	46.3
IRRF 2 Democracy			968.2	968.2	0.00	967.9	967.9	0.00	614.8	646.9	32.1
IRRF 1 Subtotal	2473.30	2473.30	2,473.3	2473.30	0.00	2,473.3	2,473.3	0.00	2,406.6	2,406.6	0.0
Grand Total IRRF 1 & 2	20977.80	20367.69	19,277.4	19,441.2	163.81	17,641.8	17,737.1	95.32	12,330.7	12,468.1	137.4

As of December 28, 2005

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview



Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- Electricity availability decreased in the last week (December 20-26) with poor performance by Baghdad area plants and increased demand with seasonal temperatures dropping into the 40s°F.
- Service in Baghdad dropped to 5.3 hours per day, while the nationwide average was 11.8 hours.
- Despite the decreased levels, electricity output for the month of December is on average 20 percent higher than it was a year ago.

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity, Water and Sanitation



Electricity:

• In the last week, two rehabilitated power plants have returned to service – one in the Baghdad area and another in the South. The Baghdad area power plant and the Southern plant are estimated to add up to 108 and 123 megawatts respectively to the national grid. The net effect will be to increase the hours of power by 1-2 hours in the Baghdad area and nationwide.

Water and Sanitation:

 A \$210,000 Water Network Project in Iskandariyah, Babil Province, was completed on December 22. The project installed 5,000 meters (3.1 miles) of pipe to the Al Kunafsa neighborhood and benefits 4,000 residents who had limited or no access to the water network previously. Eight of eleven water projects have been completed in Babil Province.

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Public Health and Healthcare



Public Health and Healthcare:

Construction is complete on the first of a planned 142 Primary
Healthcare Centers (PHC) across Iraq. The completed PHC is in
Baghdad and was handed over to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf
Region Division. The contractor estimates that three to four more
PHCs will be finished by the end of the year. The PHCs will provide
basic health care services to reduce load on currently overcrowded
and dilapidated hospitals.

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services –**Education**



Education:

- Twelve librarians from the Iraqi Museum and National Library and two major universities participated in a training workshop facilitated by the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) funded by USAID and the State Department. The OCLC is a nonprofit, computer library service and research organization dedicated to furthering access to the world's information and reducing information costs. The libraries at both universities now have the tools to develop electronic cataloging for their collections, and hundreds of scientific books provided through USAID's education program have already been catalogued in OCLC.
- Nearly 60 teachers and principals from Baghdad and central Iraq will participate in a Pilot Model Schools training workshop. The Iraqi Ministry of Education and USAID are working together to establish a series of model schools under the basic education program that will help Iraqi educators implement new and innovative teaching methods while giving students access to improved equipment. Iraqi teachers are also receiving training in teaching English as a Second Language and Information and Communication Technology, preparing teachers to use computers effectively in the classroom.

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Transportation and Telecommunications



Transportation:

 The Iraqi Reconstruction Management Office and Global Security at Baghdad International Airport are working together on several aspects related to the movement of Hajj pilgrims this year. Iraqi Airways and the Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority are coordinating the leasing of additional airplanes, chartering of flights, and movement of passengers through security.

Telecommunications:

 The Minister of Interior lauded the performance of the Advanced First Responders Network (AFRN) during recent elections. Global Positioning System capability for the AFRN came online in Baghdad in time for elections, and Iraqi police there reported 50,000 calls per day. 1,500 mobile radios for the AFRN are currently being installed in Iraqi police cars.

[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation



Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending December 23 closed with the following prices:
 - Basra Light at \$48.72/barrel

– Dated Brent at \$55.67/barrel

WTI Cushing at \$57.98/barrel

- Oman/Dubai at \$52.28/barrel

Kirkuk Crude at \$51.17/barrel

Employment Update:

• The following chart shows the number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects:

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Increase on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	34,209	34,209	0.0%
USAID	37,401	38,937	4.1%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	1,664	1,664	0.0%
MILCON (Military Construction)	249	249	0.0%
CERP (Commanders' Emergency Response Program)	0	0	0.0%
MNSTC-I	16,716	14,341	-14.2%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	15,442	15,442	0.0%
GRAND TOTAL	105,681	104,842	-0.8%

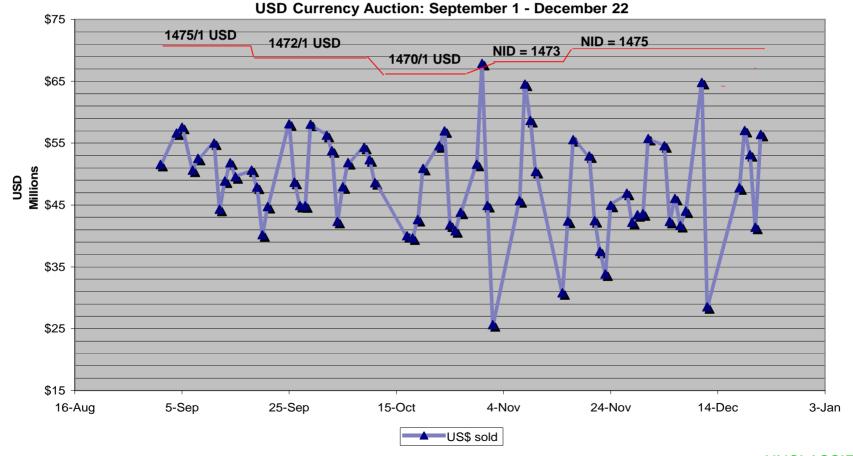
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector



Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

• The following table shows volume sold and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction from September 1 through December 22. The exchange rate remained stable this week ending at 1,475 dinars per USD on December 22.

Central Bank of Iraq



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy



The IMF Executive Board Approves a Stand-By Arrangement:

- The IMF Executive Board approved Iraq's request for an economic reform program (Stand-By Arrangement) on December 23, supported by a \$680 million loan facility.
- The prior conditions for this approval included fuel price increases and a government budget deficit lower than 27 percent of GDP.

Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, and Slovakia Forgive Iraqi Debt:

- On December 22 and 23, Iraq signed bilateral agreements with Germany (forgiving \$5.6 billion of Iraq's \$7 billion debt), Switzerland (\$230 million) and Denmark (\$42.6 million), all on the Paris Club terms of 80 percent debt cancellation. Iraq has now signed bilateral agreements with 10 of the 18 Paris Club members.
- Also on December 21, a non-Paris Club member, Slovakia, announced that it
 planned to forgive 100 percent of Iraq's \$145 million debt. This makes Slovakia the
 third country, after the US and Malta, to write off Iraqi debt completely.

Inflation:

• The cumulative inflation growth rate since the beginning of the year totaled 28.5 percent through November, following month-on-month increases of 6.4 percent in October and 4.6 percent in November.

[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential

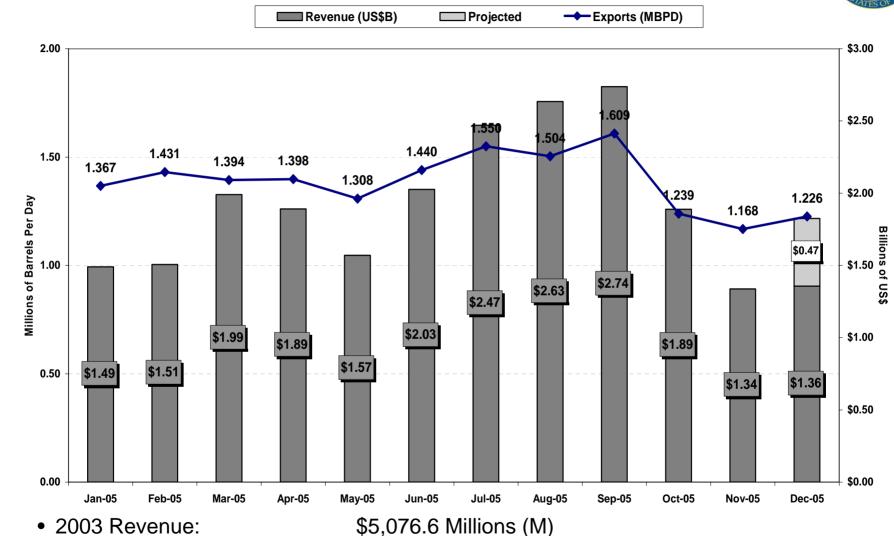




- Weekly Average (December 19-26) of 1.98 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD)
- Pre-War Peak: 2.5 MBPD in March 2003
- Post-War Peak: 2.67 MBPD

[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Export





2003 Revenue:

\$17,012.3 M

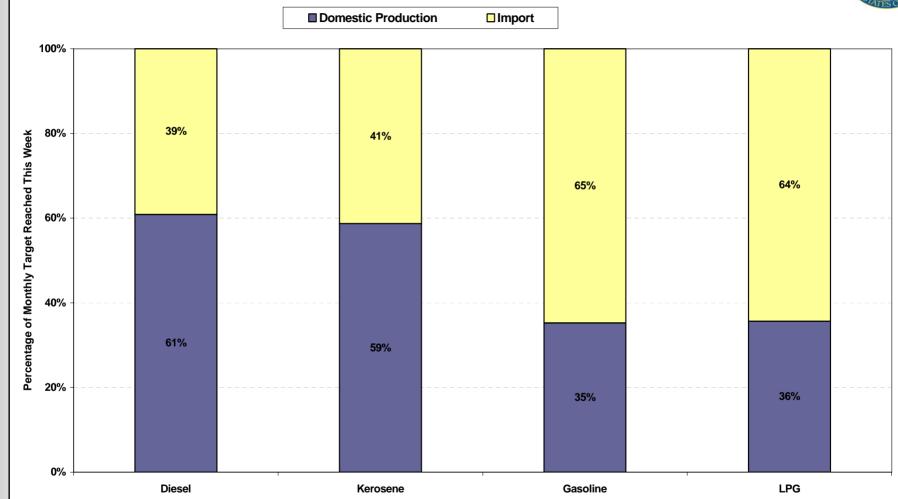
2005 Revenue:

2004 Revenue:

\$23,233.2 M (2005 year-to-date) 20

[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies



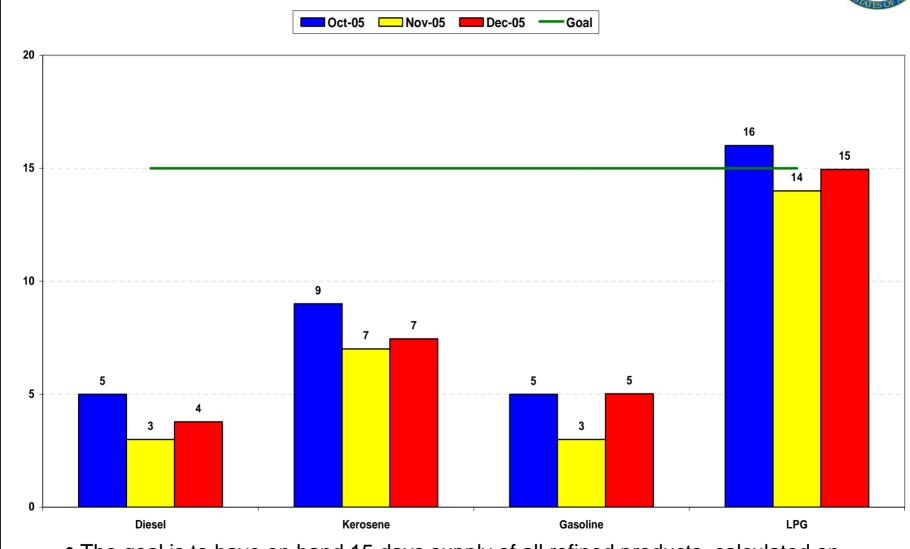


Note: This is a daily average for the week of December 19-26

- Diesel: 12.3 ML supply of 18 ML target
- Kerosene: 5.5 ML supply of 19.6 ML target
- Gasoline: 15.1 ML supply of 18 ML target
- LPG: 6220 tons supply of 4,300 tons target

[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – National Stock Levels





• The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.

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[6.] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights— Iraqi Judicial System



Saddam Hussein Trial Update:

 The trial of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein on charges of crimes against humanity was adjourned on December 22 and will resume January 24.

Central Criminal Court Finds Five Guilty of Illegal Weapons Possession:

 The Central Criminal Court of Iraq (CCCI) held five trials the week of December 12, convicting five security detainees for illegal weapons possession. To date, the CCCI has held 789 trials of insurgents suspected of anti-Iraqi and anti-Coalition activities threatening the security of Iraq and targeting MNF-I. These proceedings have resulted in 717 individual convictions with sentences of up to 30 years.

[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – Developments



British and Polish Prime Ministers Visit Troops in Iraq:

 Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain made a surprise visit to Iraq on December 22; visiting some of the 8,000 British servicemembers stationed in Iraq. He said Iraq's security and political situation had improved, but he refused to set a timetable for withdrawing troops. Additionally, Prime Minister Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz of Poland visited Polish troops in Iraq on December 21.

[7.] Increase Int'l Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations



Data as of December 28, 2005

28 Multi-National Forces – Iraq (MNF-I) Contributors (in addition to US)

Albania	El Salvador	Lithuania	Romania	
Armenia	Estonia	Macedonia	Singapore	
Australia	Georgia	Moldova	Slovakia	
Azerbaijan	Italy	Mongolia	South Korea	
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Netherlands	Ukraine	
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Poland	UK	
Czech Republic	Latvia	Portugal		
Denmark				

TOTAL ~ 23,000 Forces

*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

29 Countries and NATO

(including US)

Support Iraqi Stability Operations

[8.] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – Developments



Rumsfeld Announces Reduction in Iraq Troop Level:

- The United States will have two fewer combat brigades in Iraq in 2006, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld announced during a speech on December 23 to troops at Camp Fallujah in western Iraq. Rumsfeld announced, before a group of Marines, that the United States will drop from 17 to 15 brigades in the coming year. The change will drop the number of Americans in the country under the 138,000 pre-election baseline, officials said.
 - The decision reflects the proper balance between coalition and Iraqi forces, Rumsfeld said. The coalition footprint must be large enough to help maintain security and allow the Iraq forces to train up, Rumsfeld explained, yet not so large as to be intrusive or to antagonize the Iraqi people. The force also must not be so large as to take initiative from the Iraqi security forces, he said.
 - Rumsfeld explained that the reduction is possible because of the growing strength and capabilities of the Iraqi security forces. In the coming months, he added, more and more Iraqi army and police units will take over battlespace from Coalition forces. Iraqi brigades and divisions are standing up, Rumsfeld said, and American trainers will continue to work with Iraqi units. 26

Iraq Weekly Status – General Information



• This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.

Please forward all questions and/or comments to <u>NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov</u>

Notes and Source Citations (1 of 3)



Slide 5:

MNF-I, This Week in Iraq, Dec 21 2005

Slide 6:

MNF-I, This Week in Iraq, Dec 21 2005

Slide 7:

- DoD ISF Report, Dec 28, 2005

Slide 8:

- Karbala Demonstrations comes from the Baghdad OI 20 December 2005.
- Early Bird (https://www.us.army.mil/suite/earlybird/Dec2005/e20051227408987.html)

Slide 10:

The IRRF Financial Chart is sourced from the 28 Dec 05 IRMO Weekly Status Report

Slide 11:

- POC Tom Gramaglia, (202) 736-4065
- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load. Currently supplies are not much improved over last year when judged by hours of power, but this is due in part to an influx of new appliances. This has dramatically altered demand and diluted the effect of increased generation capacity on actual results.

Slide 12:

- http://www.centcom.mil/CENTCOMNews/Stories/12_05/51.htm
- USACE daily update 27 December, 2005.

Slide 13:

POC Wendi Dick, Dept of State, 202-647-5213

Slide 14:

- Information regarding the USAID programs comes from the USAID weekly update from 23 December 2005.
- Information regarding the Iragi Air and Fly Air comes from the IIC, 19 December 2005.

Slide 15:

Information regarding the Iraqi Air and Fly Air comes from the IIC, 19 December 2005.

Notes and Source Citations (2 of 3)



Slide 16:

- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg
- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the IRMO Weekly Report December 28, 2005
- CERP has not reported figures for some time. Until they report accurate data, the number will remain at 0.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.
- USAID continues to update weekly.

Slide 17:

Information regarding the NID auction was gathered from the Central Bank of Iraq's website: http://www.cbiraq.org.

Slide 18:

- POC: Laura Byergo, Dept. of State, 202-647-4267

Slide 19:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- NOTE: Production dropped in the south due to tankers unable to dock at the oil terminals due to bad weather and southern storage facilities are at full capacity. With no where to send the crude, field managers have lessened output. As of Monday, the weather cleared and the situation should return to normal in a matter of days.
- Iraq Petroleum Sector Facts
- There are three main refineries in Iraq: Bayji (North), Daura (Baghdad), and Basra (South).
- There are several minor refineries (known as topping plants) dotted through the country: Kisik (Mosul), Qarrayah,
 Haditha, Tikrit, Nassiriyah, Maysan (Amarah), and Samawah. These primarily produce asphalt and low grade kerosene and diesel.
- The majority of Iraq's oil infrastructure is antiquated and in need of modernization.
- Domestically produced refined products (gasoline/benzene, diesel, kerosene, LPG) currently do not meet domestic demand because of sabotage to the pipeline infrastructure. Iraq will be dependent upon imports until the insurgents cease operations against oil pipelines.

Slide 20:



- For the 2004 revenue, this already deducts the 5% war reparations to Kuwait. If included in revenue, the total would be \$17.5B.
- Projected revenue implies if the current export rate held for the entire month.
- Al-Faw Terminals: Al-Basra Oil Terminal (ABOT) and Khor al-Amaya Oil Terminal (KAOT)
 - •Production and export are at normal rates.

Notes and Source Citations (3 of 3)

- Iraq-Turkey Pipeline (IT)
 - •The IT line works intermittently since the Iragis sell the crude oil in lumps.
- Iraq-Syria-Lebanon Pipeline (ISLP)
 - •This line has been closed since 2003.
 - •Discussions were held between Iraqi and Syrian government officials, but no timetable has been set up to reopen this line.
 - •In the meantime, Iraq has set up a barter arrangement in which it exports 14KBPD from the Ayn Zalah field to Syria for refined products and electrical production.
- Iraq Pipeline through Saudi Arabia (IPSA)
 - •This line has been closed since 1991. There are no plans to reopen this line.

Slide 21:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Note: Data missing from Sept 2-4. This graph will be updated when the data arrives.
- Goals set by the State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO), a company owned by the Ministry of Oil (MOO).

Slide 22:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Note: Data missing from Sept 2-4. This graph will be updated when the data arrives.

Slide 24:

New York Times, December 23, 2005, Blair And Polish Leader Visit Troops

Slide 25:

DOD Input to Weekly Status Report 28 Dec 05-Report is updated bi-weekly

Slide 26:

 Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service, <u>Rumsfeld Announces Reduction in Iraq Troop Level</u>, http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Dec2005/20051223_3734.html